



chide  
coalition  
commensurate  
connotation  
diabolic

dilapidated  
integral  
noxious  
scenario  
yen

## Ten Words in Context

In the space provided, write the letter of the meaning closest to that of each **boldfaced** word. Use the context of the sentences to help you figure out each word's meaning.

### 1 **chide**

(chīd)

-verb

\_\_\_ *Chide* means

- My parents **chided** me for getting sunburned, but my blistered skin hurt a lot more than their scolding.
- Elise was right to **chide** me when I lazily threw the newspapers into the trash instead of stacking and tying them for recycling.

A. to command.                      B. to criticize.                      C. to be cruel to.

### 2 **coalition**

(kō'ə-līsh'ən)

-noun

\_\_\_ *Coalition* means

- Four colleges formed a **coalition** to operate a shared Center of Higher Education.
- A **coalition** of one sheriff, two horse thieves, three stagecoach robbers, and a couple of crooked gamblers once made up the government of Virginia City.

A. one part of a whole.              B. a neighborhood.              C. a partnership.

### 3 **commensurate**

(kə-mən'sər-īt)

-adjective

\_\_\_ *Commensurate with* means

- Most students who work hard will eventually see results **commensurate** with their efforts.
- The expression "make the punishment fit the crime" means that a penalty should be **commensurate** with the degree of wrongdoing.

A. essential to.                      B. delayed by.                      C. equal to.

### 4 **connotation**

(kōn'ə-tā'shən)

-noun

\_\_\_ *Connotation* means

- For many of us, the word *sea* has a **connotation** of salty air and vast openness.
- *Sayonara*, the Japanese word for "goodbye," actually means "if it must be so" and thus has **connotations** of sadness at parting.

A. a suggested meaning.              B. a handicap.                      C. a warning.

### 5 **diabolic**

(dī'ə-bōl'īk)

-adjective

\_\_\_ *Diabolic* means

- In the musical *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*, the barber is indeed **diabolic**: he kills his clients by cutting their throats so that his friend Mrs. Lovett can make the victims into meat pies.
- The horror story featured open graves, walking corpses, and a **diabolic** villain who turned an entire townful of people into zombies.

A. lazy.                                  B. frightened.                      C. devilish.

### 6 **dilapidated**

(də-lāp'ə-dāt'īd)

-adjective

\_\_\_ *Dilapidated* means

- The **dilapidated** house must have once been handsome. Some of its broken windows are stained glass, and the loose door hinges are fine metalwork.
- His teddy bear is **dilapidated**, with its ears hanging by threads and the stuffing coming out, but the little boy won't let go of it long enough for anyone to repair it.

A. out of proportion.                      B. strongly desired.                      C. run-down.

**7 integral**  
(ĩn'tə-grəl)  
-adjective

— *Integral* means

- Arguing seems to be an **integral** part of Laura and Nate's relationship. If they weren't fighting, they'd have nothing to say to each other.
  - Voting is **integral** to democracy. Without free elections, a democratic system cannot continue to exist.
- A. essential.                      B. very small.                      C. predicted.

**8 noxious**  
(nŏk'shəs)  
-adjective

— *Noxious* means

- When you are cleaning, never mix ammonia and bleach. The **noxious** gas they produce could send you to the hospital.
  - The entire office building had to be evacuated when **noxious** fumes started coming out of the air vents and dozens of workers got sick.
- A. potential.                      B. unhealthy.                      C. impossible.

**9 scenario**  
(sĩ-nâr'ē-ō)  
-noun

— *Scenario* means

- "I've worked out an overall **scenario** for the movie," the screenwriter said, "but I haven't gone beyond the basic plot."
  - To help governments and industries plan for the future, experts sometimes develop **scenarios** describing what might happen in the next year or decade.
- A. an outline of possible events.    B. a budget.    C. an actual occurrence.

**10 yen**  
(yĕn)  
-noun

— *Yen* means

- Whenever I have a **yen** for something sweet, I try to eat fruit instead of cookies or candy.
  - My **yen** for garlic bagel chips doesn't go away even after I've eaten a whole bagful.
- A. a longing.                      B. a feeling of disapproval.                      C. a memory.

## Matching Words with Definitions

Following are definitions of the ten words. Clearly write or print each word next to its definition. The sentences above and on the previous page will help you decide on the meaning of each word.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Harmful to life or health; poisonous
2. \_\_\_\_\_ A sequence of events that is imagined, assumed, or suggested
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Very cruel; wicked; demonic
4. \_\_\_\_\_ To scold mildly or express disapproval
5. \_\_\_\_\_ A strong desire; craving
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Necessary to the whole; belonging to the whole
7. \_\_\_\_\_ A union of individuals, groups, or nations for some specific purpose
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Corresponding in degree, number, or size; in proportion
9. \_\_\_\_\_ A secondary meaning suggested by a word, in addition to the word's dictionary definition
10. \_\_\_\_\_ Fallen into a state in which repairs are badly needed; broken down

**CAUTION:** Do not go any further until you are sure the above answers are correct. Then you can use the definitions to help you in the following practices. Your goal is eventually to know the words well enough so that you don't need to check the definitions at all.